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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

January Livestock Slaughter
Honey Production
Prices Received By Farmers

Louisiana Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during January totaled 400,000 pounds, down 20 percent from December 2009 and the previous year.

There were 400 head of **cattle** slaughtered during January, unchanged from December but down 200 head from the previous year. Average live weight was 733 pounds, up 19 pounds from the previous month but one pound below January 2009. Total live weight, at 286,000 pounds, was eight percent above the previous month but 32 percent below the previous year.

Calves slaughtered during January totaled 500 head, up 100 head from December and 200 head above the previous year. Live weight averaged 536 pounds, up 34 pounds from December and 22 pounds above a year ago. Total live weight, at 256,000 pounds, was up 22 percent from December and 48 percent above the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during January totaled 800 head, down 700 head from the previous month and 200 head below January 2009. Average live weight was 190 pounds, up 29 pounds from December and eight pounds above the previous year. Total live weight was 161,000 pounds, down 35 percent from December and ten percent below a year ago.

The number of **sheep** slaughtered during January was 200 head, down 100 head from the previous month but the same as the

previous year. Live weight averaged 66 pounds, up six pounds from the previous month and eight pounds above the previous year.

United States Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.9 billion pounds in January, down six percent from the 4.2 billion pounds produced in January 2009.

January 2010 contained 21 weekdays (including two holidays) and five Saturdays. **January 2009** contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and five Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.1 billion pounds, was two percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.7 million head, down slightly from January 2009. The average live weight was down 16 pounds from the previous year, at 1,290 pounds.

Veal production totaled 11.6 million pounds, three percent below January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 82,800 head, two percent below January 2009. The average live weight was down seven pounds from last year, at 238 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.8 billion pounds, 11 percent below the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.9 million head, ten percent below January 2009. The average live weight was the same as the previous year, at 272 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 12.8 million pounds, was three percent below January 2009. Sheep slaughter totaled 186,600 head, two percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, down three pounds from January a year ago.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Red Meat Production

| Item | Louisiana | | | United States | |
|---------------|--|---------|------|--|-----------|
| | December | January | | January | |
| | 2009 | 2009 | 2010 | 2009 | 2010 |
| | -----Number thousand head----- | | | -----Number thousand head----- | |
| Cattle | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 2,718.4 | 2,707.2 |
| Calves | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 84.7 | 82.8 |
| Hogs | 1.5 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 9,922.6 | 8,903.2 |
| Sheep & Lambs | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 189.5 | 186.6 |
| | -----Total live weight, thousand pounds----- | | | -----Total live weight, thousand pounds----- | |
| Cattle | 264 | 421 | 286 | 3,537,582 | 3,480,605 |
| Calves | 210 | 173 | 256 | 20,463 | 19,474 |
| Hogs | 249 | 178 | 161 | 2,696,991 | 2,416,135 |
| Sheep & Lambs | 18 | 11 | 16 | 26,662 | 25,705 |
| | -----Average live weight, pounds----- | | | -----Average live weight, pounds----- | |
| Cattle | 714 | 734 | 733 | 1,306 | 1,290 |
| Calves | 502 | 514 | 536 | 245 | 238 |
| Hogs | 161 | 182 | 190 | 272 | 272 |
| Sheep & Lambs | 60 | 58 | 66 | 141 | 138 |
| | -----Million pounds----- | | | -----Million pounds----- | |
| Red Meat | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.4 | 4,169.7 | 3,916.4 |

Honey: Number of Colonies, Yield and Production¹

| Selected States | Number of Colonies | | Yield Per Colony | | Production | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------|------------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------|
| | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 |
| | -----1,000 Colonies----- | | -----Pounds----- | | -----1,000 Pounds----- | |
| Alabama | 9 | 9 | 66 | 49 | 594 | 441 |
| Arkansas | 28 | 24 | 75 | 57 | 2,100 | 1,368 |
| Georgia | 65 | 65 | 71 | 41 | 4,615 | 2,665 |
| Louisiana | 40 | 37 | 77 | 103 | 3,080 | 3,811 |
| Mississippi | 14 | 14 | 98 | 104 | 1,372 | 1,456 |
| Texas | 77 | 74 | 64 | 63 | 4,928 | 4,662 |
| United States | 2,342 | 2,462 | 69.9 | 58.5 | 163,789 | 144,108 |

Honey: Stocks, Price and Values¹

| Selected States | Stocks, December 15 ² | | Average Price Per Pound ³ | | Value of Production | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 | 2008 | 2009 |
| | -----1,000 Pounds----- | | -----Cents----- | | -----1,000 Dollars----- | |
| Alabama | 214 | 66 | 190 | 182 | 1,129 | 803 |
| Arkansas | 525 | 301 | 135 | 139 | 2,835 | 1,902 |
| Georgia | 369 | 346 | 152 | 147 | 7,015 | 3,918 |
| Louisiana | 493 | 610 | 136 | 132 | 4,189 | 5,031 |
| Mississippi | 110 | 87 | 130 | 132 | 1,784 | 1,922 |
| Texas | 1,380 | 886 | 134 | 138 | 6,604 | 6,434 |
| United States | 51,159 | 37,153 | 142.1 | 144.5 | 232,744 | 208,236 |

¹ For producers with 5 or more colonies.

² Stocks held by producers.

³ Prices weighted by sales.

Louisiana Honey Production

Honey production from producers with five or more hives in Louisiana during 2009 totaled 3.8 million pounds, up 24 percent from 2008. The number of colonies, at 37,000, was down 3,000 from 2008. Honey stocks on December 15, 2009, amounted to 610,000 pounds, down 117,000 pounds from 2008.

The average price received for honey sold during 2009 was 132 cents per pound, up four cents from 2008. The value of the 2009 honey crop was 5.0 million dollars, up 20 percent from the previous year.

United States Honey Production Down 12 Percent

Honey production in 2009 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 144 million pounds, down 12 percent from 2008. There were 2.5 million colonies producing honey in 2009, up five percent from 2008. Yield per colony averaged 58.5 pounds, down 16 percent from the 69.9 pounds in 2008, and is the lowest yield since 1989. Colonies which produced honey in more than one state were counted in each state where the honey was produced. Therefore, yields per colony may be understated, but total production would not be impacted. Colonies were not included if honey was not harvested. Producer honey stocks were 37.2 million pounds on December 15, 2009, down 27 percent from a year earlier. Stocks held by producers exclude those held under the commodity loan program.

Honey Prices Record High

Honey prices increased to a record high 144.5 cents in 2009, up two percent from 142.1 cents in 2008. U.S. and state level prices reflect honey sold through retail, cooperatives and private channels. Prices for each color class are derived by weighting the quantities sold for each marketing channel. Prices for the 2008 crop reflect honey sold in 2008 and 2009. Some 2008 crop honey was sold in 2009, causing some revisions to the 2008 crop prices.

Average Prices Received By Farmers

| Item | Louisiana | | | United States | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| | Entire Month | | Preliminary | Entire Month | | Preliminary |
| | February 2009 | January 2010 | February ¹ 2010 | February 2009 | January 2010 | February ¹ 2010 |
| | -----Dollars----- | | | -----Dollars----- | | |
| Soybeans, per bushel | 9.44 | 9.99 | 9.59 | 9.54 | 9.79 | 9.40 |
| Sorghum, per cwt | n/a | 5.76 | 2/ | 5.04 | 5.84 | 5.42 |
| Rice, per cwt | 15.50 | 13.70 | 14.50 | 16.00 | 14.40 | 14.50 |
| Upland Cotton, per pound | .491 | .602 | .618 ³ | .412 | .606 | .617 ³ |
| Hay, all, baled, per ton | n/a | n/a | n/a | 131.00 | 109.00 | 107.00 |
| Beef Cattle, per cwt ⁴ | 54.10 | 56.90 | 62.40 | 78.90 | 82.10 | 84.40 |
| Steers & Heifers, per cwt | 79.70 | 83.80 | 89.00 | 83.80 | 87.50 | 89.40 |
| Cows, per cwt ⁵ | 44.10 | 45.40 | 52.00 | 43.60 | 47.90 | 50.50 |
| Calves, per cwt | 93.00 | 96.70 | 101.00 | 104.00 | 109.00 | 111.00 |
| Broilers, live, per pound | n/a | n/a | n/a | .470 | .480 | .470 |
| Eggs, All, per dozen | n/a | n/a | n/a | .809 | 1.030 | .917 |
| Milk, All, per cwt ⁶ | n/a | n/a | n/a | 11.60 | 16.10 | 15.90 |

¹ Mid-month.

² Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

³ Preliminary prices are based on sales during the first half of the month

⁴ “Cows” and “steers and heifers” combined.

⁵ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

⁶ Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

n/a = Not Available.

February Farm Prices Received Index Down 6 Points

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in February, at 133 percent, based on 1990-92=100, decreased six points from January. The Crop Index was down seven points but the Livestock Index was unchanged. Producers received lower prices for corn, soybeans, lettuce and eggs and higher prices for cattle, oranges, onions and sweet corn. In addition to prices, the overall index was also affected by the seasonal change based on a three-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of milk, cattle, broilers and strawberries offset decreased marketings of corn, soybeans, wheat and cotton.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index was up seven points from February 2009. The Food Commodities Index, at 132, decreased six points from last month but increased ten points from February 2009.

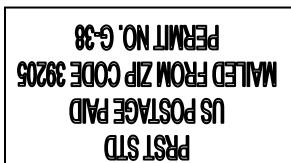
Prices Paid Index Up 1 Point

The February Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 185 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index was up one point from January and six points above February 2009. Higher prices for complete feeds, nitrogen, feeder cattle and feeder pigs more than offset lower prices in February for diesel, feed grains, mixed fertilizer and concentrates.

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